

Appl. No. 09/916,452
Amdt. dated March 11, 2005
Reply to Office Action of December 22, 2004

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheet of drawings include changes to Figure 1 to overcome objections to the drawings set forth in the Office Action dated December 22, 2004.

Attachment: Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

REMARKS

In the above-mentioned Office Action, all of the pending claims, claims 1-20, were rejected. Claims 1, 7-12, and 16-18 were rejected under §102(b) over Storer. Claims 2-6 were rejected under §103(a) over the combination of Storer and Yabe. Claims 13, 14, 19, and 20 were rejected under §103(a) over the combination of Storer and Benayoun. And, claim 15 was rejected under §103(a) over the combination of Storer and Schmid. Objection was further made to Figures 1-4 of the drawings.

Responsive to the rejections of the claims, independent claims 1 and 16 have been amended, as set forth herein, in manners believed better to distinguish the invention of the present application over the cited references used against the claims. Amendments made to various of the dependent claims are made responsive to amendments made to their respective parent claims.

With respect to exemplary claim 1, the claim has been amended, now to recite that selection made by the first dictionary content deletion selector is made in implicit synchronicity to delete corresponding portions, in amount and location, pursuant to synchronous operation of the sending-receiving entity pair. Method claim 16 has been analogously amended. Support for the amendment is found, for instance, on page 12, lines 1-3 and lines 5-7.

Storer, relied upon by the Examiner for disclosing a first dictionary content deletion selector fails to disclose the structure, and corresponding method, recited as now-amended. Review of Storer indicates, e.g., at column 9, lines 67-column 10, line 5, that a memory controller 26 controls a sequence in which data is entered and removed from a dynamic memory. Column 11, lines 24-31 indicates that a deletion heuristic is used to arrange strings in a dictionary and to delete a least recently used string. And, columns 16, line 52-columns 19, line 23 describe operation of a deletion algorithm. None of these sections, nor elsewhere in the reference, disclose or imply, implicit synchronous operation by which to select deletion of dictionary content. That is to say, this reference does not deal with synchronization of deletions relating to a sending-receiving entity pair. The applicants further note that, while column 4, lines 46-52 of Storer notes parallel operation of dictionaries, the parallel operation is described with respect to several dictionaries maintained at a common location, i.e., several dictionaries at an encoder or several dictionaries at a decoder.

Benayoun, relied upon by the Examiner to reject claims 13 and 19 in combination with Storer also fails to disclose such structure, or corresponding method. The cited portion of the reference merely states that the contents of the dictionary location containing the closest value are deleted and the dictionary location is used for a new string of characters. None of the other portions of the reference appear to disclose implicit synchronicity of selection or of implicit deletion in a synchronous manner.

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The remaining reference, the Schmid reference, used in combination with Storer to reject claim 15 was cited merely for showing use of a selected signaling protocol that utilizes sequence numbers. This reference also fails to disclose the structure, or corresponding method, recited in the independent claims, as now-amended.

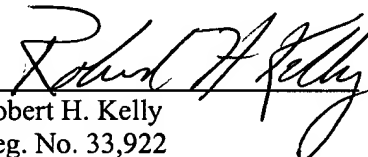
In light of the foregoing, the applicants believe that no combination of the references can be made to form the invention, as now recited.

Amendments to the specification add reference numerals to place the specification in conformity with the drawings. And, the replacement sheets of the drawings are believed to overcome the Examiner's objections thereto.

In light of the foregoing, independent claims 1 and 16, as now-amended, and the dependent claims dependent thereon are believed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reexamination and reconsideration for allowance of claims 1-20 is respectfully requested. Such early action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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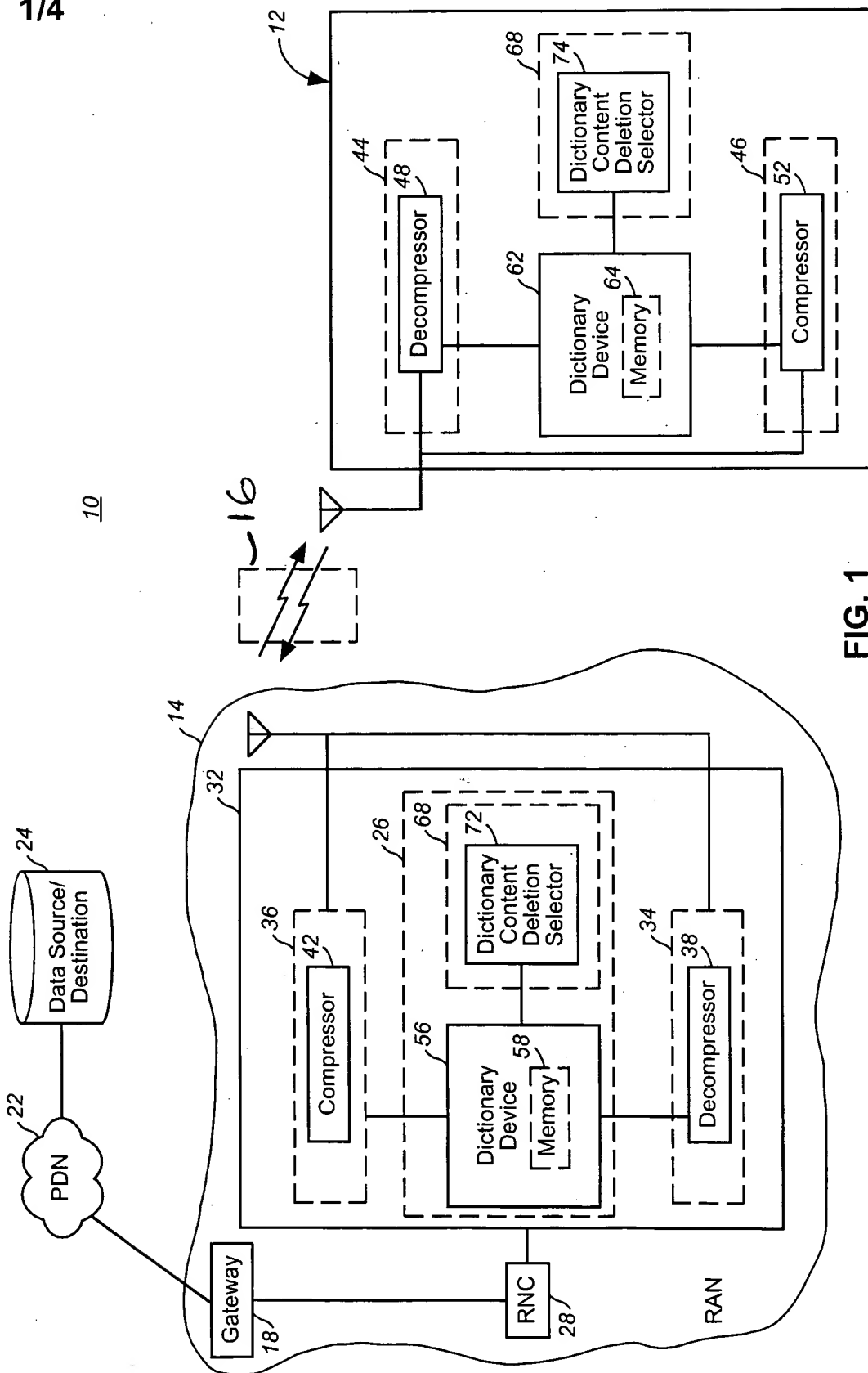


FIG. 1